

Fwd: Commercial Truck Driver Protest - Operational Impacts - Situational Report - January 30, 2022

From: "McMahon, Joe" <joe.mcmahon@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
To: SOR-dist_Ambassador_Bridge_chief <sor-dist_ambassador_bridge_chief@cbsa.gc.ca>
Date: Sun, 30 Jan 2022 21:07:00 +0000

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Irrelevant
Irrelevant
Date: January 30, 2022 at 4:00:56 PM EST
To: CBSA ASEC Event18 <CBSA_ASECEvent18@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
Cc: Irrelevant
Irrelevant <[redacted]>
Subject: Commercial Truck Driver Protest - Operational Impacts - Situational Report - January 30, 2022

Protected A

<i>Situational Report</i>
Commercial Truck Driver Protest Operational Impacts
January 30, 2022

Background

On January 15, 2022, an Order of Council (OIC) was put in-place to mandate vaccinations for commercial truck drivers crossing the border. As a result, commercial truck drivers around the country have organized and started protesting outside port of entries (POEs) by blocking roads and slowing traffic, along with a convoy of commercial vehicles headed towards Ottawa to protest outside Parliament.

Convoy status: All convoys arrived in Ottawa on January 29, 2022.

South Route (SOR/GTAR):

- January 27, 2022 – Convoys from Fort Erie and Sarnia plan to depart for Ottawa on January 27, with potential stopover in Kingston for rest and to meet with additional convoys. The South Route convoy from Windsor is continuing with “slow rolls” today and will be moving onwards to Kingston on January 28.
- January 28, 2022 - The convoy arrived in Kingston and is expected to depart for Ottawa on January 28 at 0830 ET and is expected to arrive on Parliament Hill at 1200 ET.
- January 29, 2022 – Two additional convoys have been scheduled to depart Peterborough (0545 ET) and Kingston (0830 ET). They are both scheduled to arrive on Parliament Hill at 1200 ET on January 29, 2021.

West Route (PAC):

- January 27, 2022 - The “Convoy for Freedom 2022” departed B.C. on January 23, 2022, and will make its way to Ottawa. According to the itinerary, on January 27, it will be travelling through Thunder Bay towards Sault Ste. Marie.
- January 28, 2022 - The convoy is expected to leave Sault Ste. Marie on January 28 at 0600 ET and is expected to stop in multiple locations, including Sudbury and North Bay, to end their day at 1800 ET in Arnprior, ON. This convoy is expected to arrive on Parliament Hill at 1200 ET on January 29.
- January 29, 2022 – The convoy was delayed arriving in Arnprior on January 28, 2022. The convoy is scheduled to depart at 1100 ET in order to arrive on Parliament Hill at 1200 ET.

East Route (ATL/QC/NOR):

- January 27, 2022 - The Freedom Convoy 2022 website has not updated this route, however, has indicated on their website that this route is still scheduled to be arriving in Ottawa as of January 29, 2022.
- January 28, 2022 - Based on the website, this convoy is expected to leave Rivière-du-Loup at 0700 ET on January 28 and will make multiple stops, including in Quebec City. They are expected to arrive in Vankleek Hill, Ontario, at 1500 ET to end their day. This convoy is expected to arrive on Parliament Hill at 1200 ET on January 29.
- January 29, 2022 – The convoy from Quebec region is scheduled to depart Vankleek Hill at 1030 ET and a second convoy is scheduled to depart Cornwall at 1000 ET to converge on Parliament Hill at 1200 ET.

United States:

- January 28, 2022 - “Freedom Fighter Nation Protest” (USA): An advocacy group called “Freedom Fighter Nation” is calling for protests on the US side of the border “to join our Canadian brothers and sisters in the Fight for Freedom.” Identified locations of these protests are currently in Houlton, Maine; Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan; and Sweet Grass, Montana.

- January 29, 2022 –The “Freedom Fighter Nation Protest” group is requesting protestors to arrive at the three border locations (Houlton, Maine; Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan; and Sweet Grass, Montana) for 1200 ET on January 29, 2022, in order to join in the Fight for Freedom. There is no indication as to how many protestors will be present.

US Protestors Identified at Port of Entries

- January 29, 2022, as of 1200 ET, no reports have been received by the BOC regarding protestors arriving from the US at POEs. No information is currently available for the number of protestors that have been allowed to enter Canada or have been returned to the US.
- Two confirmed independent journalists, seeking entry to travel to Ottawa to report on the protests, arrived at the Lansdowne POE. The travellers met all entry requirements and provided identification and equipment consistent with their stated purpose of travel.
- Reports received from CBSA POEs regarding Enhanced Vigilance Exams of potential protestors:

POE	Vehicle #	Enhanced vigilance exams (PAX #)	Direct Back	Allowed to Leave	Granted Entry	Comments
Pac Hwy Traffic, PAC	2	3	3	0		Wrong turns attempting to protest at Peace Arch Park.
Douglas, PAC	10	21	18	3		Wrong turns attempting to protest at Peace Arch Park.
Lansdowne, NOR	1	2			2	Journalists looking to document the protests in Ottawa. Provided necessary credentials and had equipment consistent with their stated purpose of travel.

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Atlantic Region

Operational Plans have been developed and shared with HQ.

The region is currently monitoring potential convoy protests with three routes specific to the Atlantic Region.

On January 29, 2022, at 0900 AT, the Atlantic Region Operations Centre (ROC) was activated by the Regional Director General due to planned protests and blockades at the Woodstock POE and in the St. Stephen's Area. Additionally, anticipated winter storms in the Maritimes on January 29th and 30th are expected to have some impact on access to the POEs.

Local brokerages are considering diverting the commercial traffic to other POE's during this protest period. St Stephen would be the logical alternative, despite there being the possibility of an offshoot protest in that area as well. The next strategy would be for the brokers to simply tell the drivers to wait out the protest further south.

January 28, 2022 - Brokerages have now stated that they will advise drivers to enter Canada before or after the planned protest activities. Also for the drivers to consider the weather forecasted for Saturday in their crossing times. At this point, they will not be diverting traffic to alternative sites. Saturdays are typically not busy with commercial traffic at this location so will have minimal impact.

Woodstock: A BIS line call was received from someone representing the "Freedom Trucker Convoy" indicating that a blockade will take place at the Woodstock POE and possibly St.

Stephen 3rd Bridge for a period of 24 hours. The caller also mentioned that similar activities would be taking place at the Sweet Grass and Sault-Ste-Marie crossings. Unclear if this caller is affiliated with the movements occurring in the US.

January 29, 2022 – As of 1300 AT, a total of eight personal vehicles arrived from within Canada and on the highway near the POE. The group had blocked one of the Southbound lanes heading into the US, but no impacts were reported to CBSA Operations. One media vehicle was parked on the Southbound highway during the day, taking photos of the Canadian side of the border. The Convoy was expected to arrive at 1300 AT, and the RCMP indication they would have members onsite for public safety, crowd control and to manage the flow of traffic from Route 95. Additionally the area is experiencing a winter snow storm.

January 29, 2022 - At 1515 AT, the last car left the protest. CBSA operations were not impacted.

January 30, 2022 – As of 1300 AT, there were no convoy activities at the POE and no impacts to CBSA operations. RCMP and CBSA Woodstock Incident Command stood down. A final report is expected at 1700 AT.

Quebec Region

On January 28, 2022, truckers will be meeting at three POEs (Saint-Theophile, Stanstead, and Saint-Bernard-de-Lacolle), will drive on Highway 40 until Vankleek Hill (ON), and will move onward to Ottawa on January 29, 2022.

Northern Ontario Region

Sault Ste. Marie: As of 1100 ET, no protestors or vehicles were present on either side of the border.

Lansdowne: At 1218 ET, a media outlet arrived at the POE and engaged the superintendents, who directed the media representative to CBSA Communications line. The representative proceeded to film from the staff parking lot before returning to their vehicle and leaving. No impacts to CBSA operations were reported.

Southern Ontario Region

Rainbow Bridge: Information has been received from various open and law enforcement sources indicating a potential mobile protest at the Rainbow Bridge POE on January 29, 2022. Information suggests that the demonstration will occur on both the Canadian and American sides of the border. So far, this movement is being supported by the PPC, Freedom 2022, Let Us Reunite, and Lockdowns No More. SOR IEOD is engaged and monitoring.

January 29, 2022 – At 1400 ET, approximately 150 – 200 protestors were present at the POE to protest various COVID-19 restrictions. In consultation with the Bridge Commission, they were allowed access to the pedestrian walkway and planned to meet up with the US counterparts before returning to Canada. At 1546 ET, the pedestrian walkway at Rainbow Bridge was clear of protestors. All participants left the area, vacating the Niagara Falls Bridge Commission (NFBC) property. There were no impacts to CBSA operations.

Ambassador Bridge: As of 1200 ET, approximately 100 vehicles were driving down Huron Church Road, however it is not impacting border traffic at this time. There were approximately 40 cars protesting on the US side and their protest was not impeding operations.

January 29, 2022 – As of 1812 ET, all protestors departed the area for the day and at no point did the protests impact CBSA operations.

January 30, 2022 – At 1224 ET, approximately 22 vehicles were involved in a Freedom convoy on Huron Church Road, near the POE. There were no impacts to CBSA operations.

Prairie Region

Operational Plans have been developed and shared with HQ.

January 30, 2022, at 1400 ET, the CBSA issued a news release regarding the delays at the Coutts POE. The port remains open however travellers should expect extensive delays and are being directed to use other POEs based on the CBSA directory.

Coutts: An Instagram movement called s.37 is starting a protest on January 29, 2022 and will remain in the area of the POE until all mandates and restrictions are lifted. Information gathered suggests that trucks and vehicles will block access in both directions. The organizer contacted the CBSA to confirm that they will let emergency vehicles and CBSA employees through to the POE. An action plan has been put in place. RCMP and other officials have been contacted.

January 29, 2022 – As of 1015 CT, an estimated 1,000 conveyance convoy, stretching 50km long, was approximately 15km north of the POE. RCMP staged vehicles at the POE, ready for the arrival.

January 29, 2022 – As of 0930 MT, no protestors were on CBSA property and CBSA operations were not affected by the protest. The group was doing a 20Km loop north of the POE that began in Milk River and ended at the weigh scales, located 1Km north of the POE. RCMP notified the protestors that they were to keep the highway open and were prepared to intervene. One protestor was present on the US side approximately 1 mile south of the POE.

January 29, 2022 – At 1336 MT, a small group of protestors and spectators arrived in the CBSA staff parking lot and the RCMP responded. The vehicles and pedestrians moved themselves to the public roadway and the RCMP closed off public access at 1352 MT. Various blockades continued throughout the day on the highway but never on CBSA property. There were no impacts on CBSA operations.

January 29, 2022 – At approximately 1541 MT, it was reported to CBSA that a commercial truck had been positioned across the road, north of the POE. Furthermore, it was reported that anywhere from 150 to 200 people had vacated their vehicles and were walking on the highway, physically blocking traffic northbound and southbound. The RCMP were on site and managed the issue.

January 29, 2022 – At 2123 MT, CBSA employees were required to take alternate routes when accessing the POE due to the commercial vehicles that positioned across the highway creating a blockade north of the POE.

January 30, 2022 – At 1200 ET, the commercial parking lot and highway egress from the POE were completely full of commercial vehicles that had been cleared by CBSA. As there was no more room for additional vehicles to proceed into Canada the gates were closed across PIL. The port remains open however the highway remains closed at this time due to the blockade north of the POE.

Carway: A blockade action is being planned at the Carway POE on Saturday, January 29, 2022. According to social media, the intention to block access to the border. The group has indicated they will allow trucks to pass.

January 29, 2022 – At 1145 ET, a small group of about 20 vehicles were parked at the Duty Free Store north of the POE. The vehicles arrived honking horns, however none were blocking the highway. Everything remained peaceful and the protest was not affecting CBSA Operations.

January 29, 2022 – At 1738 ET, the protestors left the duty free parking area.

Emerson: Manitoba Operation Freedom Border Protest is set to occur this Saturday, January 29, starting at 0500 CT at the Emerson POE. The protest will start as a slow roll event but the intention is to become a complete standstill in order to block access to the border.

January 29, 2022 - As of 0702 ET, the Emerson POE reported approximately 100 commercial and other vehicles assembled north of the POE. One lane on Highway 75 remained open for vehicles to pass southbound and some vehicles were seen using the turn around lane prior to the POE to loop and go Northbound. As of 0757 ET, the convoy was in full swing with traffic slowly rolling. Vehicles being released from Primary Inspection were able to proceed north as the convoy was letting vehicles through even though all lanes North and South appeared to be occupied by the convoy.

January 29, 2022 – As of 1145 ET, vehicles have kept to one of two highway lanes in both directions, however, traffic was congested. Traffic into Canada was flowing but was being slowed by the convoy immediately north of the CBSA property. Currently there is no impacts on CBSA Operations.

January 29, 2022 – As of 2040 ET, the convoy continues to drive in a loop approximately 5 km north of the POE. The convoy size has reduced noticeably in size, with large gaps in between the

participating vehicles. Many trucks have parked at the weigh scales or the visitor centre for the evening. The situation will continue to be monitored to determine if the remaining vehicles will continue overnight.

January 30, 2022 – As of 0939 ET reporting, no convoy activity was occurring. Northbound and southbound traffic were able to move freely. Trucks are still parked at the weigh scales at the Travel MB Centre.

January 30, 2022 – At 1130 ET, a small convoy begun north of the port and POE staff are reporting issued being to report on site due to twinned vehicles blocking the highway southbound approximately 8Km north of the port. There are no impacts to CBSA operations.

North Portal: On January 29, 2022, between 1608 ET and 1634 ET, a convoy of approximately 40 personal vehicles left a protest rally in Estevan and proceeded towards the POE. The convoy passed the POE, but did not stop, and continued into the village of North Portal. They then took a grid road north back to the highway and then proceeded south to pass the POE again. The convoy completed this loop two additional times before dispersing. CBSA operations were not affected by this convoy.

Pacific Region

Kingsgate: Social Media Posts on Cranbrook, BC Facebook groups indicated a planned protest in the city of Cranbrook on January 29, 2022. The post also directed supporters to either the port of Roosville or Kingsgate to rally at the borders.

January 29, 2022 – at 1600 MT, several commercial tractors and approximately 20 passenger vehicles arrived at the POE and attempted to enter the commercial examination area. They were met by CBSA officers and informed they would not be allowed to enter. The group moved to the duty free shop loop and continued north. No traffic was impeded and there were no impacts to CBSA.

Osoyoos: Local management will be onsite on January 29, 2022, following open source social media posts regarding possible protests at the POE. Management will engage the RCMP if required. On January 28, 2022, the RCMP informed CBSA that a convoy would be gathering at Osoyoos Town hall at 1300 PT and then move towards the POE.

January 29, 2022 – At 1811 ET, an approximately 5-7Km long convoy arrived near the POE. Vehicles were turning around just north of the port where protestors exited their vehicles to stand and wave flags. The protest lasted approximately 45 minutes and did not impact operations.

Paterson: US Customs and Border Protection informed the CBSA of open source social media activity regarding a protest originating in Northport, WA that would be travelling towards the POE. Local management is engaged and continues to liaise with their US counterpart.

Douglas: Open Source social media posts have suggested possible protests near the Douglas, Aldergrove and Pacific Highway POEs. A US based border protest has posted meeting times at three locations (Blaine, Lynden, and Peace Arch Park) starting 1200 PT and is calling for Canadians to meet on Canadian side. Posts have gotten minimal interaction but there are some indications of Canadians stating they will attend. Messaging to the protestors is to remain calm and peaceful.

January 29, 2022 – As of 1528 PT, the protestors had converged at Peace Arch Park and a smaller group in Lynden, WA. Protestors remained on the US side and remained peaceful.

Roosville: On January 29, 2022, at 1545 MT, an approximately 70 passenger vehicle convoy arrived from within Canada to the POE. The convoy, suspected from being from Cranbrook and Fernie, turned around in the Duty Free parking lot in order to continue northbound. No media was present, however two vehicles were observed stopping in the duty free parking lot to film the convoy. Traffic into Canada remained light and there were no disruptions to CBSA operations.

Intelligence and Enforcement

ANALYSIS:

General Threats

- According to the RCMP, no formal organized plot of violence has been identified for Ottawa, however, there are a number of factors which could impact the situation as the protest mobilizes. This could include the number of people in the crowd, potential for altercations amongst protesters and with law enforcement and the influence of ideologically motivated actors or charismatic speakers. This may impact the temperature of the crowd and the potential for violence by a lone actor or fringe group cannot be discounted. ICAP assesses that these same factors can be attributed to protests organized around ports of entry (POE). (PA)
- The RCMP has also reported that while there have been some online calls for violent action during and after the protests they have not observed any credible threat of violence in these online conversations at this time. (PA)
- Protesters were observed lighting small fires in Ottawa, mainly for warmth due to the extreme cold. This phenomenon was not reported to be occurring at or near POE. (PA)
- “A Facebook user shared a video and images from a small plane at (approx. 15 hours ago). The plane appeared to be circling the downtown Ottawa area. According to the post caption, the pilot flew from Syracuse. Unknown at this time if this individual will also fly over downtown Ottawa today.” We have no other info at the moment, no tail number. Will brief when more is known about the veracity of the post. (PA)
- Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson said to the CBC this morning that he feels the protest has reached a boiling point and he is having the discussion with OPS. Watson mentioned that emergency routes have been blocked, and some emergency responders have had to work double shifts downtown because their replacements could not enter the city to cover the next shift. (PA)
- There is currently no confirmed end time for the demonstrations, but PP PLT have reported chatter that the end date of the event could be 2022-02-02. Many of commercial vehicles on SJAM also mentioned they what to leave due to lack of fuel. Unclear if they would return. This could have an impact on NHQ operations, as critical operations require access to the SRS building on Monday. (PA)

POE Threats

- An analysis of SRT reporting, OSINT, s.38 [REDACTED] indicates that there are no credible threats currently identified for any POE. (PA)
- Although most protests or rallies at POEs were limited in size and compliant, the demonstrations at Coutts and Emerson were slightly more aggressive in nature, both in size and level of disobedience. On January 30, 2022, as of 1011 MT, the commercial parking lot and highway egress from Coutts port of entry (POE) are completely full of commercial vehicles, that have been cleared by CBSA. There is no room to allow any additional vehicles to proceed into Canada until the highway blockage north of the port is cleared. As such, the gates have been closed across the primary inspection lanes (PIL). The port remains open and all staff have been able to report to work. The highway however is considered closed at this time. The RCMP were enforcing road access. However, there was no threat to CBSA officers or infrastructure, as this was outside the Customs Controlled Area. (PA)
- Of the limited enhanced vigilance examinations conducted for foreign nationals at the POE during the last 24 hours, none were identified as IMVE actors. Correction: There was two incidents involving firearms, but this was quickly determined to be the same US citizen with a lawful firearm who made a wrong turn into Canada at different Pacific Region POE while trying to travel to protests and rallies on the US side of the border. This occurred at Pacific Highway and then Douglas POE. (PA)
- Small supporting rallies, convoys and protests occurred at some US borders points in support of the Canadian convoys and protests. Despite online propaganda indicating thousands of commercial motor vehicles (CMV) converging on the US side of the border and possibly attempting to cross into Canada, only small groups of personal type vehicles and very limited CMV materialized. All were contained to the US side of the border, as US CBP controlled the flow of traffic through the use of outbound examinations. (PA)

Ideologically Motivated Violent Extremism (IMVE)

- Ideologically motivated individuals who are anti-government, anti-authority and conspiratorial in nature may be present at POE protests. Although, known IMVE persons of interest were observed (both in person and online) in Ottawa, no such individuals were seen at POE. Similarly, a minor amount of IMVE related indicators (i.e. flags, signs, individuals outfitted in tactical gear, etc.) were displayed in Ottawa, this was not observed at POE. (PA)
- The online IMVE rhetoric continues to encompass a variety of conspiracy theories beyond the anti-vaccination movement including questioning the legitimacy of the Federal Government and QAnon-like beliefs regarding government officials engaging in illegal activities. However, this chatter is marginalized and discouraged by both convoy organizers and participants. (PA)
- As the protest wanes, it is possible (40% probability) that some ideologically motivated actors may decide to create disorder influenced by complacency, frustration with Government response, or a need to demonstrate their role to online adherents. This is more likely to be seen in Ottawa, where persons of interest are already present and have the crowds to influence, rather than at POE where impact would be localized and have less shock. However, larger POE like Coutts, may potentially be suitable targets. (PA)

Other Threats

- The convoy and protests may also attract individuals with religiously or racially motivated and ethno-nationalist views, though the protest itself is not about these ideologies. However, there has been no reporting that such actors are planning activities around this event. (PA)
- Demonstrators gathered at Minister of Public Safety Marco Mendicino's constituency office on Saturday to protest what they say is Islamophobia in the Canada Border Services Agency. Although not related to the Freedom Convoy, a small group who believes CBSA agents denied refugee status to Egyptians based on links to the Muslim Brotherhood is a terrorist group that promoted violence, and engaged in subversion against a democratic government, is based on Islamophobia. This group is known to the CBSA and is likely attempting to use the greater focus on government to advance their position. (PA)

- A small amount of counter protesters did appear in Ottawa, but there was no escalation or violence that occurred. However, there has been no reporting that such encounters occurred at POE. (PA)
- The size, unorganized potential and general distraction of these POE protests could create conditions where both criminal actors and migrants may use the events to illegally smuggle people and goods across the border into Canada by way of by-passing border controls. This may also include protesters who wish to join events on the Canadian side of the border, but do not want to report to Border Service Officers. At some POE like Coutts there were groups of pedestrians walking in proximity to the border. However, given the significant law enforcement presence on both side of the border, there was no reporting that cross-border incidents occurred. (PA)
- The protests in Ottawa saw the use of a helicopter and drones, resulting in a NOTAM issuance restricting airspace in the Parliament district. However, there were no incidents of helicopters or drones reported at POE. (PA)
- The sheer amount of vehicles, both personal and CMV, now gathering in and around POE may create an unsafe environment from a traffic perspective. Reports of demonstrators parking and leaving their vehicles in precarious areas could lead to an increase of traffic accidents involving pedestrians and vehicle. This possibility could become a threat for CBSA officers beginning or ending their shifts. An unfortunate accident involving a CBSA officer may quickly escalate any protests. (PA)
- The general disregard for COVID-19 public health measures and the size of POE protests may present a health-related threat, as symptomatic or asymptomatic carriers could create a super-spread event. No medical events were reported. (PA)

Internal Taskforce

All NCR employees are asked to avoid attending CBSA offices in downtown Ottawa from Saturday, January 29 through to and including Monday, January 31, unless critical operational requirements demand on-site presence. This restriction will be monitored over the course of the weekend and updates will be provided as required.

In NCR buildings, where applicable, all guard services are manned. All single points of entry are locked and under the positive control of contracted guard services and or automated access control systems.

Communications

No media calls received on this issue yesterday.

Media coverage is split between outlets reporting on peaceful protesting ([Reuters](#)) and others reporting on protesters dancing on the tomb of the unknown soldier ([CTV News: Ottawa](#)) or protestors demanding food at Ottawa homeless shelter ([CTV News: Ottawa](#)).

List of media and social media coverage below:

NCR Articles :

- Trucker convoy's park-in protest gears into 2nd day in Ottawa [Global News](#)
- Le gros party des mal-aimés [Radio-Canada](#)
- Thousands of convoy supporters reach Parliament Hill, calling for end to COVID restrictions [Toronto Star](#)
- Trucks, thousands of protesters clog Ottawa streets as they bring anti-vax message to Hill [Ottawa Sun](#)
- Rooftop cops have Ottawa's best views of trucker protest [Toronto Sun](#)

- Ottawa homeless shelter staff harassed by convoy protesters demanding food [CTV News: Ottawa](#)
- Les élus sommés de prendre leur sécurité au sérieux [Presse Canadienne](#)
- Thousands stage peaceful protest in Ottawa against Canada's vaccine mandates [Reuters](#)
- De nombreux drapeaux du Québec flottent au convoi des camionneurs [Le Devoir](#)
- Ottawa girds for another day of gridlock as truckers' park-in protest rolls on [Canadian Press](#)
- Here's what you need to know about the 'Freedom Convoy' rally in Ottawa today [CTV News: Ottawa](#)
- «Convoi pour la liberté»: manifestants équipés pour veiller tard [Agence QMI](#) (Journal de Montréal, Journal de Québec)
- Protests against COVID-19 mandates could stretch on, officials say [CBC News: Ottawa](#)
- Des protestations jusqu'ici pacifiques [La Presse](#)
- 'Freedom Convoy' rolls into town, jams Parliamentary Precinct, thousands protest against COVID-19 mandates [Hill Times](#) (2022-01-29)
- Thousands of convoy protesters descend on Parliament Hill to demand an end to COVID-19 measures [Globe and Mail](#) (2022-01-29)
- Top Canadian defence officials condemn protesters dancing on Tomb of the Unknown Soldier (2022-01-29)
- Donald Trump voices support for truckers convoy protest in Ottawa [CTV News](#) (2022-01-29)

Coutts Articles:

- Protesters block Alberta highway near Coutts border, RCMP tells drivers to stay away [Calgary Herald](#)
- RCMP issue travel advisories as protestors block off highway near Coutts border crossing [Global News](#) (2022-01-29)
- "Potential travel delays" at Port of Sweetgrass [KRTV](#) (2022-01-29)

Opinion/Editorials:

- EDITORIAL: Democracy and the right to protest [Toronto Sun](#)
- OPINION: La tombola de l'incohérence [Journal de Montréal](#)
- OPINION: A protest that's not focused on truckers poses a bigger question for politicians who want to embrace it [Globe and Mail](#) (2022-01-29)

Other Governmental Departments

Government Operations Centre (GOC):

- January 28, 2022 - As part of the protest, Canada Unity plans to present a request (MOU) to the Governor General and Senate for the removal of various COVID19 related Public Health Order restrictions. Some supporters suggested they would not leave Ottawa until vaccine mandates for public servants, Canadian travelers and cross-border truckers are lifted.
An event Organizer stated the plan is to "gridlock the city, while leaving room for traffic to businesses and emergency vehicles to get through" while holding events with speakers at a yet to be disclosed stage location. A joint communication strategy is being developed by the City of Ottawa to ensure the public is informed of traffic and transit plans throughout the demonstration. Ottawa police are planning for around 1,000 to 2,000 vehicles, while also noting the Freedom Convoy has so far been peaceful and cooperative with police and city officials in other jurisdictions.
- January 29, 2022 – As of 1630 ET on January 28, 2022, the GOC is monitoring the potential to affect Critical Infrastructure (CI) including Federal assets. As a precautionary measure, and following recommendations from security partners, PSPC has authorized the lock down of all buildings under its control (100 Wellington, National Press Building, etc.). Access for essential building occupants will be maintained at all times. The

Parliamentary Precinct Security Operations Center (SOC) will remain operational throughout the event and liaise closely between police, security personnel and PSPC stakeholders as required.

Minto Properties received confirmation that individuals started to enter office buildings in the downtown core and some caused damages. As a result, Minto Place has locked down 180 Kent Street. All entrance doors will be locked (weekend mode) and security will be at each entrance to monitor access to and from the Complex.

As of 1200 ET on January 29, 2022, it was reported by the media that the Prime Minister had left Rideau Cottage for an undisclosed location. Parliament Protective Services expects as many as 10,000 protestors to be in attendance. The protest in Ottawa remains peaceful and demonstrators are cooperating with local officers.

- January 29, 2022 – As of 1600 ET, there had been no reports of impacts to any federal buildings and that the event had remained peaceful. As most federal government employees are working remotely due to the pandemic, the disruption to government activities remains minor.
- January 30, 2022 – Individual actions overnight resulted in broken windows to a City of Ottawa vehicle. Paramedics were displaced within the downtown core for their safety. Police resources will be re-deployed today so as to maintain public safety. The Alexandria and Portage bridges are to remain closed coming in to the city.
- January 30, 2022 - As of 0927ET reporting, very little foot traffic on Parliament Hill but foot traffic in front of Wellington was picking up again. Planned activities include religious service at 1000 ET and Maxime Bernier to speak at 1200 ET

Transport Canada:

- January 28, 2022 - Transport Canada has informed the CBSA that, as a result of the anticipated protest, the Transport Canada Situation Centre will temporarily relocate to S.37 as of 1500 ET on January 27, 2022.
- January 29, 2022 – A NOTAM was issued with an airspace restriction over downtown Ottawa/Gatineau only and did not include the area around the Ottawa International Airport. The NOTAM remains in place until January 31, 2022, at 1600 ET.

This information is classified Protected A. IT MAY NOT BE DECLASSIFIED OR DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE THE ORIGINAL RECIPIENT WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF CBSA. If you have any questions or follow up requests for detailed information, please contact the Border Operations Centre **Personal Info**

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